will depend on the consumption of this particular fertilizer in the country, indigenous production programme and stock already available on hand.

Sutlej—Yamuna Link Canal

629 SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal was to be completed by August, 1986;

(b) what is the progress made in this regard; and

(c) what has led to delay in its completion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Punjab Memorandum of Settlement, the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal (Punjab Portion) was to be completed by 15th August, 1986.

(b) and (c) The progress of work on the project had slowed down because of an agitation by the farmers for a change in the alignment of the canal. It is reported that this problem has since been resolved. The Central Government have suggested a number of measures to Punjab Government for expediting the progress of work on this canal.

Rural Employment Generation Programmes

630. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total employment likely to be generated during the current financial year under various rural development programmes;

(b) what is the target fixed to bring rural population above the poverty line in the year 1986-87; and

(c) what are the different avenues of employment in the rural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) to (c) The wage employment in rural areas is mainly provided under National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. Target for employment generation under these two programmes during the current year has been fixed at 486.5 million mandays.

Assistance to families in rural areas to cross the poverty line is provided under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). It is proposed to assist 3.2 million families under IRDP during 1986-87. Assistance in the shape of supplementary dose will be given to estimated 2.0 million families assisted during Sixth Plan and likely to require assistance in crossing the poverty line and to 1.2 million new families.

Third meeting of NCR Board

631. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the third meeting of the National Capital Region Board was held at Vigyan Bhavan on 3rd July, 1986;

(b) if so, what subjects were discussed therein and the decision taken, if any; and

(c) whether Government have sufficient funds for development projects in rural areas of Delhi and that of Western U.P. including in the National Capital Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Board considered the draft interim plan for the development of the National Capital Region apart from some procedural matters. The discussion was inconclusive and it was decided to continue the same in the next meeting.

(c) Rs. 35 crores are earmarked under the Urban Development Head for National Capital Region schemes in the Seventh plan. The question of provision of additional funds is under examination.

Oilseed production

632. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target of oilseed production in 1985-86 and to what extent it has been achieved; and

(b) the manner in which Government propose to make up the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) As against a target of 136 lakh tonnes of oilseeds set for 1985-86, the production is estimated at around 116 lakh tonnes, as per provisional estimates available from the States. The shortfall has been primarily due to failure of kharif groundnut in Saurashtra and other parts of the country due to severe drought conditions prevailing in 1985 kharif season.

(b) The Government have been arranging adequate imports of edible oils to bridge the gap between domestic demand and supply of edible oils.

Sales turn-over of integrated Fisheries Project, Cochin

633. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how much fish did the Integrated Fisheries Project at Cochin sell to the public during the last three years;

(b) whether any complaints have been brought to the notice of Government in the past about the sale;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into the matter in the past, if so, the details of the action taken; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) During the last three years the Integrated Fisheries Project at Cochin sold to the public 849 tonnes of fish and fish products.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Small and medium newspapers

634. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what steps are being taken by Government to help small and medium newspapers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): A statement (See Appendix CXXXIX Annexure No. 64]